

CIA, by Ayers, Bradley
CIA, Cuba
SOCKETS IN THE WAR that Never
WAR
(orig under
Ayers)

AND THEY WERE THE PROS?

A Professional Soldier Evaluates CIA/Cuban Exile Operations

by Bradley Ayers

At the age of 18, Bradley Earl Ayers enlisted in the U.S. Army paratroopers. In his 12 years of military service he was promoted through the infantry ranks from private to captain. He is qualified as a master parachutist, underwater demolitions swimmer, mountaineer, aircraft pilot, and flight instructor. He has received various awards and decorations for his military exploits.

In early 1963, Ayers was selected by the Department of Defense for a sensitive, undercover assignment with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. Upon completion of this top secret mission in late 1964, he resigned his Army commission. He was honorably discharged and in 1965 organized his own air charter company. He has been active as a real estate broker and private investigator.

Captain Bradley E. Ayers was serving as the Executive Officer of the U.S. Army Ranger Training Camp at Eglin AFB, Florida in the spring of 1963 when he was ordered to the Pentagon for a secret assignment. He and an Engineer Officer-demolitions expert, Major "Wes" Westrum, after undergoing extensive security screening, were given an opportunity to "volunteer" for undercover

Crew member of CIA mother ship Leda ducks from photographer as he works on a V-20, a high powered speed boat used to carry Cuban exile command teams to their objectives. Note MG stanchion (see arrow) for .30 cal. Browning. V-20's

also carried .50 cal. Brownings, emplaced at sea on mounts bolted into plates embedded in fiber glass. Armor plating was embedded in fiber glass to protect fuel tanks and personnel. Each cost over \$30,000.

